

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 001049

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: OPERATION TRIZO

REF: MEXICO 2125

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM VANCE

1. IN ORDER RESPOND AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TO OUTSTANDING GOM REQUESTS FOR EQUIPMENT FOR ERADICATION CAMPAIGN, WE ARE SENDING S/NM'S CHIEF AVIATION SPECIALIST RUDY HALL TO MEXICO SOONEST. HE WILL ARRIVE JANUARY 4 ON AMERICAN FROM CHICAGO ETA 1730 HOURS.

2. WE WISH HIM TO MEET WITH JOHN FORD SOONEST TO DISCUSS EQUIPMENT REQUESTS. UNLESS IMPERATIVE TO DECISION ON EQUIPMENT NEEDS, SUGGEST FORD POSTPONE JANUARY 5 VISIT TO GUERRERO SO THAT HE AND HALL CAN DISCUSS EQUIPMENT NEEDS

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WITH BEST AND SOLIS SOONEST.

3. WE HAVE A HOLD ORDER ON TWO MICROFOIL SYSTEMS FROM ARIZONA THAT CAN BE DELIVERED BY JANUARY 15 BY COMPANY'S OWN AIRCRAFT. ON BASIS OF HALL'S EVALUATION OF SPRAY EQUIPMENT NEEDS FOR CAMPAIGN, MANY OF THE CURRENT PROBLEMS MAY BE RESOLVED IF FIVE MICROFOIL SYSTEMS WOULD BE PROVIDED

IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

4. EXPECT EMBASSY STEERING GROUP CAN ARRIVE AT AGREEMENT OF EQUIPMENT NEEDS (NOT LIMITED TO MICROFOIL) WITH CONCURRENCE OF GERTZ AND HIS ADVISERS BY JANUARY 7 FOR IMMEDIATE ORDERING OF NEEDED EQUIPMENT.

5. FIVE DEA PLANES AND PILOTS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE MEXICO CITY JANUARY 7.

6. H. GROOM AS ASSISTANT TO C. BERNAL WILL ARRIVE MONDAY EA FLIGHT AT 1430 HOURS.

7. SECOND TDY COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST WILL ARRIVE EARLY JANUARY.

8. ALTHOUGH WE ARE REACTING URGENTLY TO OJEDA'S NEW EQUIPMENT REQUESTS, WE SHOULD NOT LET STAND WITHOUT RESPONSE HIS SUGGESTION (PARA 7 REFTTEL) THAT THE INADEQUACY TO DATE OF ERADICATION CAMPAIGN IS DUE TO DELAY IN DELIVERY THIS EQUIPMENT. HE MADE DECISION GO HERBICIDE ROUTE NOVEMBER 12 AND STILL HAS NOT PUT IN THE FIELD ANYTHING LIKE THE TROOPS REQUIRED FOR MANUAL DESTRUCTION WHICH WERE ENVISAGED WHEN WE MET LAST JUNE. THE EQUIPMENT THEN PLANNED HAS LONG SINCE BEEN DELIVERED. INGERSOLL

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